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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: Unknown (continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/520,827 filed
March 8, 2000)
Filed: August 6, 2001
Examiner: Unknown
Art Unit: Unknown
Applicant: Thomas J. Larkner, et al.
Title: **WATER PURIFICATION SYSTEM AND METHOD INCLUDING
DISPENSED VOLUME SENSING AND CONTROL**
Our Ref: BARN-92A

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

August 6, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend
the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 1, please add the following:

The present application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Serial No.
09/520,827, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in
its entirety.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 3, with the
following rewritten paragraph:

Upon exiting the filter assembly 36, the purified water enters a
dispense manifold 44 connected in the fluid circuit 12. The dispenser manifold 44

includes a first normally-closed solenoid valve 46 that is coupled to the flow control system 20. The normally-closed solenoid valve 46 may be selectively opened by the user to direct water through a final filter 48 and through the water outlet 16. When purified water is not being dispensed, a normally-open solenoid valve 50 is provided to direct the water in a recirculating manner through a check valve 52 and back to the beginning of fluid circuit 12 to be continuously recirculated by pump 30. Check valve 52 prevents backflow from inlet 14 and also provides any necessary back pressure for a manual valve (not shown) associated with the optional remote dispensing gun 32.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-20 without prejudice or disclaimer and add new claim 21 as follows:

21. (NEW) A water purification system for purifying water flowing through a water flow path between an inlet and an outlet, the system comprising:

- a water purification device in the water flow path and having at least one interior volume;

- a purification medium positioned within the interior volume;

- a pump for moving water through the purification medium;

- a flow control system for controlling a volume of purified water dispensed from the outlet of the water flow path, the flow control system including an input device configured to allow a user to input a desired volume of purified water to be dispensed from the outlet of the water flow path during a dispense

cycle and a sensing device operable to generate a signal used to determine a volume of purified water dispensed from the outlet of the water flow path; and
a flow regulation device coupled with the flow control system and operable to stop the discharge of purified water at the outlet of the water flow path when the desired volume of purified water has been dispensed from the outlet of the water flow path.

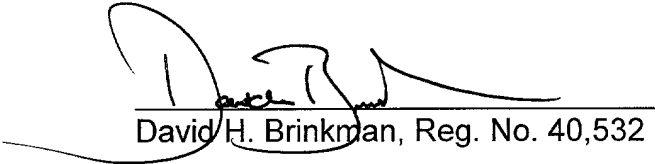
REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-20 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claim 21 has been added in this application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made"**.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 1, please add the following:

The present application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Serial No. 09/520,827, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Paragraph beginning at page 8, line 3, has been amended as follows:

Upon exiting the filter assembly 36, the purified water enters a dispense manifold 44 connected in the fluid circuit 12. The dispenser manifold 44 [including] includes a first normally-closed solenoid valve 46 that is coupled to the flow control system 20. The normally-closed solenoid valve 46 may be selectively opened by the user to direct water through a final filter 48 and through the water outlet 16. When purified water is not being dispensed, a normally-open solenoid valve 50 is provided to direct the water in a recirculating manner through a check valve 52 and back to the beginning of fluid circuit 12 to be continuously recirculated by pump 30. Check valve 52 prevents backflow from inlet 14 and also provides any necessary back pressure for a manual valve (not shown) associated with the [option] optional remote dispensing gun 32.

Claims 1-20 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim 21 has been added.